

When Do I Have to Comply?

The regulation is implemented in two phases: Phase 1 and more stringent Phase 2 standards. Under the sell-through provisions, businesses can sell noncompliant inventories for a period of time.

Finished goods made with composite wood product panels that are not compliant with Phase 1 standards cannot be sold after 12/31/2012.

Finished goods made with Phase 1 compliant panels can be sold until 12/31/2013. Phase 2 compliant products can be sold indefinitely.

For more information on the sell-through requirements, visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/outreach/advisories.htm>



Some of our documents are translated in other languages for your convenience at:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm>

If you need this document in an alternate format (i.e. Braille, large print) or another language, please contact Layla Gonzalez at (916) 324-0354 or lgonzale@arb.ca.gov. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.



Information for Retailers of Finished Goods

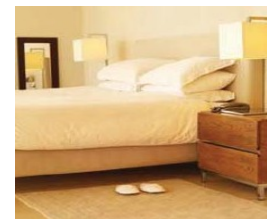


This brochure is for guidance only
For additional information about the regulation, visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm>

California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street,
P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, CA 95812

What Retailers of Finished Goods Need to Know About

Formaldehyde Air Pollution Control Requirements for Composite Wood Products



<http://www.arb.ca.gov>

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm>

What is the Composite Wood Products Regulation?

In order to protect public health, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has adopted a regulation to limit the amount of formaldehyde emitted from composite wood products. The regulation establishes formaldehyde emission limits for:

- particleboard (PB)
- hardwood plywood (HWPW)
- medium density fiberboard (MDF)
- thin MDF (tMDF) ≤ 8 millimeters
- and finished goods made with these materials

Inspections

Retail facilities that sell, or offer for sale, finished goods are subject to inspection by CARB staff. CARB staff may purchase products for laboratory testing to determine compliance with the emissions standards.

Following are basic tips for compliance.

Check the regulation at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/2007/compwood07/fro-final.pdf> for specific requirements.

Tips for Compliance

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

Finished Goods:

Any product made with composite wood products. Examples of finished goods include, but are not limited to: furniture, cabinets, flooring, stereo speakers, picture frames, moldings, cribs, etc. Finished goods must be made from certified, compliant composite wood panels.

Retailer:

Entities that sell finished goods to consumers such as large national department stores and small, independently owned and operated businesses.

Importer/Distributor:

Entities that distribute finished goods into California that will then supply these products to downstream customers, such as retailers.

Fabricator:

Entities that use composite wood panels to make finished goods.

FINISHED GOOD RETAILERS SHOULD:

✓ Purchase Compliant Products

Retailers need to ensure when ordering finished goods to request only products that meet CARB's regulatory requirements for composite wood products.

✓ Check for Proper Labels

Finished goods containing composite wood products must be labeled by the fabricators to show:

- Fabricator's name
- Date of fabrication
- Statement of compliance

✓ Check Invoices

Suppliers must include a statement denoting compliance with the regulation. Retailers should check for a statement of compliance on invoices or bills of lading for all products made with HWPW, PB, or MDF.

✓ Keep Proper Records

- Retailers must keep records, such as invoices, of all regulated finished good purchases.
- Records must show the date of purchase and the supplier.
- Records must be kept for at least two years.

